

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 02698 292224 Z

14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 L-03 SS-14 H-02

DOT-00 AID-20 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /096 W

----- 057640

R 292103 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9232

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS CARACAS 2698

EO 1652 N/ A

TAGS: ETRN VE US

SUBJECT: FREEBOARD AGREEMENTS SANTIAGO FOR RICHARD KINSELLA ( MARATT)

1. VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMED EMBASSY THAT COAST GUARD IN PUERTO RICO HAS TWICE FINED VENEZUELAN VESSEL BELONGING TO BUQUES MERCANTES DEL CARIBE C. A. BECAUSE IT OPERATES UNDER 1930 FREEBOARD AGREEMENT CONDITIONS.
2. VENEZUELA HAS SIGNED BUT NOT RATIFIED 1966 AGREEMENT ON SAME SUBJECT. ACCORDING TO DIRECTORATE MERCHANT MARINE, 1966 AGREEMENT CONTAINS CLAUSE WHICH PERMITS OLDER SHIPS TO CONTINUE OPERATING UNDER 1930 CONDITIONS.
3. VENEZUELAN DIRECTORATE MERCHANT MARINE NOW THREATENS TO FINE ALL UNITED STATES FLAG VESSELS ENTERING VENEZUELAN PORTS UNDER CONDITIONS OF 1966 AGREEMENT SINCE VENEZUELA NOT PARTY TO IT AND OPENLY TOLD FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT IT INTENDS TO RETALIATE FULLY. IT THEN WOULD INTEND TO LET VENEZUELAN VESSELS BE FINED IN UNITED STATES PORTS BUT WOULD SUBSIDIZE THESE FINES.
4. FOREIGN MINISTRY UPON REQUEST BY EMBASSY HAS ADVISED DIRECTORATE MERCHANT MARINE TO REFRAIN FROM RETALIATION UNTIL BOTH GOVERNMENTS CAN CLARIFY LEGAL SITUATION. FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD EMBASSY, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS MIFFED AT COAST GUARD FINING VESSEL WHICH IS FULLY AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE UNDER CONDITIONS AND PERMITS ISSUED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 CARACA 02698 292224 Z

FOREIGN GOVERNMENT. IT HOPES THAT FINES WILL BE WAIVED AND NOT  
LEVIED IN FUTURE.

5. LOCAL PRUDENTIAL GRACE REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED EMBASSY IT FULLY  
EXPECTS MERCHANT MARINE DIRECTORATE TO CARRY OUT THREAT AND  
THAT SUCH A CONDITION WOULD RESULT IN DELAYS IN PORTS IN ADDITION  
TO FINES AND THAT MERCHANT MARINE RELATIONS AT PRESENT TENSE  
ENOUGH WITHOUT SUCH ADDITIONAL FINING PROCEDURE.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S COOPERATION IN HAVING  
PUERTO RICO COAST GUARD STATION STAY FINES UNTIL LEGAL SITUATION  
CAN BE CLARIFIED.  
MCCLINTOCK

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**TAGS:** ETRN, US, VE  
**To:** EB  
**SECSTATE WASHDC INFO SANTIAGO**  
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